



UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL CRICKET CLUB

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME

Welcome to the first UBCC newsletter for the 2013-2014 season – your termly update on all things cricket related at the University of Bristol!

Over the summer, the new committee of 9 has been working hard to ensure that this year builds on the fantastic work started by Luke Smith during the 2011-2012 season and continued by Ross McAdam last year. There have been new sponsorship deals put in place, even more increases in facility time and with a potential weekly usage of the nets at Gloucestershire CCC as well as another great intake of freshers (including a current Glamorgan CCC playing member in Ruaidhri Smith) this year looks like being a successful one both on and off the field.

Within this newsletter, there will be updates on what has gone on so far and what we can hope to look forward to.

We hope that you enjoy reading the newsletter, if anyone has any news they wish to contribute regarding cricket at Bristol then please get in touch!

The UBCC Committee 2013-2014

2013-14 Committee:

Club Captain: Dan Brown, Vice-Club Captain: Mike Beard, Treasurer: James Scott, Social Sec: Richie Straughan, Match Sec: Tim Saxon, Alumni Sec: Tom Francis, Sponsorship Sec: Amin Sheikh, Website Sec: Jack Williams, Intramural Football Sec: Ross McAdam



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INDOOR CRICKET

Once again, Bristol have entered The BUCS Indoor Championship, this year entering 2 teams into the competition. The indoor comp gives an opportunity for some of the University of Bristol's strongest cricketers and strongest freshers to play competitively throughout the winter.

In the first round of fixtures in October, despite missing some key names, the 1st team comfortably won both games while the 2nd team, largely comprising of freshers, unfortunately lost both by considerable margins (albeit one was against the 1st team).

In the second round in November, the 1st team now at full strength played 4 games while the 2nd team played another two. The day started well as the 1st team comfortably beat Exeter 2nds, scoring 150 runs and bowling the opposition out for below 100 in reply, meaning they went into the second game against Exeter 1sts with confidence. Having been asked to bowl, Bristol kept it incredibly tight as the seamers Mike Beard and Ruaidhri Smith bowled quickly early on. The spin of Jack Williams and James Scott then came to the fore and some good bowling backed up by some sharp fielding kept Exeter to a below-par score of 102 in their 10 overs. However, it wasn't to be Bristol's match as a flurry of wickets in the middle order effectively ended their chances of a victory, ending up some way short at 61 all out, and losing to the same opposition they had lost to a year earlier.

After this setback however, the 1st team went on to win the remaining two games against Southampton Solent and Southampton comfortably, beating both sides by over 60 runs. Notable batting performances came from Dan Brown in the first game and Jamie Klapper in the second, and all the bowlers were at the top of their game to restrict the opposition batsmen to very low scores.

The 2nd team had two very close games, narrowly losing to Bournemouth in the last over of the first game before beating Southampton Solent on the last ball of the second game. It is the first time Bristol have entered two teams into this competition, and the 2nd team have competed tremendously well this far, considering the majority of players are new to the club.

The next round is due to be played in February, where Bristol 1st team will reach the national finals at Edgbaston if they win their remaining two games.

TRIP TO LORDS

Over the summer, Director of Sport Simon Hinks organized a trip to Lords for UBCC members past and present to watch a YB40 game in an executive box. A great day out was had by all who attended, and after chatting to Simon, we are hoping to hold more events like this in the future.

Simon has suggested that we try and form a strong link between current UBCC members and the alumni that are now working in London so the large numbers of alumni in London can feel closer to the current club. His idea is that the alumni can hold a number of social events throughout the year such as the Lords event, and that current students can potentially link up on these social events once or twice a year, and vice-versa with the events that we run. This idea is still to be developed further and more information will be given in the next newsletter, but in the meantime, please contact Luke Smith at luke.d.s.smith@gmail.com if you are in the London area as he is looking to organize an event in the New Year.



A picture taken from the social event at Lords – which will hopefully happen again in 2014.

Social Report – Autumn Term 2013 – RILEYS NEW SOCIAL VENUE

After three consecutive years of increasing membership and a regular turnout of over 30 members at socials, UBCC have moved away from Alterego to a new social venue – Rileys on the Triangle. As well as being ideally placed in terms of proximity to Sports Night at the Bunker, and offering pool, darts and snooker at a reduced price as well as the football on a large screen, we have negotiated a contract off Rileys which means we will receive sponsorship from them in return for holding our socials there.

Socials this year have been typically eventful. Stoke Bishop was the venue for the start of the Freshers' Social and with over 60 returning members and freshers in attendance it was a sign of what is to come. This was followed in October with a night at the dogs in Swindon, which was once again a fantastic night for all who attended, but more successful for some than others! SCORE was also a huge success, with close to 50 UBCC members donning their jumpsuits to head to Motion dressed as characters from the film Top Gun (see picture below).

With plans in place for an Ashes social, pub golf, the plus one social and a joint social with Ladies Lacrosse as well as the Christmas SCORE in two weeks' time, it promises to be another great year off the field!



Alumni Fixture – Friday 6th June 2014

After the success of last year's fixture, the annual match between the Alumni and the University will be played on Friday 6th June 2014.

We are planning on extending the match this year into the evening with a curry after the match and VIP in a club on the Triangle – most likely to be Lounge! An email will be sent around February time asking you to play in this fixture as details are yet to be confirmed. Keep a note of the date if you want to play!



KPMG RENEW SPONSORSHIP

KPMG have renewed their sponsorship with UBCC for the third year and their logo will continue to appear on all of our training kit and playing kit, which once again will be supplied by MKK Sports.

In addition, KPMG now sponsor the Bristol Wizards (the cricket intramural football team – more details on p.4).

UBCC are always on the lookout for sponsors, no matter how small this is, whether this is a logo on our website, an advertisement in our annual fixture booklet which gets distributed all around Bristol, or something more substantial. If you or your company is interested in sponsoring us, please contact club captain Dan Brown to discuss at db0367.2010@my.bristol.ac.uk.

1983 Alumni Reunion Day

A special event to add to the UBCC calendar this year is the return of the 1983 UBCC team to play a fixture against the current 1st XI on Friday 13th June 2014.

To celebrate 30 years since this team won the national university championship (now BUCS), Peter Tucker, who played in the team, has managed to track down the victorious team and they will return to Bristol to play at Coombe Dingle on this day.

We very much look forward to hosting the 1983 side, and I'm sure it will be a competitive but memorable day for all involved!

Annual Dinner – March 2014

The hugely popular annual dinner will once again take place in March 2014. We are looking to hold it on Saturday 8th March but the date and venue are yet to be confirmed. All alumni will be emailed an invitation in the New Year to see if they would like to attend. It would be great to see as many alumni as possible at this annual event!

Bristol Wizards – Cricket's Intramural Football Team

UBCC have entered a team into the intramural football league for this year to keep our members occupied during the winter months! At the time of writing, UBCC sit top of the league not having dropped a point with the big match against the university football 5th XI yet to be played at the time of writing. The prolific Ross McAdam has done a great job in setting up this team and it has helped to create a better sense of team camaraderie before the cricket comes in in the summer.

UBCC Tour 2014 – Barbados

After successful tours in 2012 to Cambridge and in 2013 to Amsterdam, 2014 will see 17 UBCC members touring the sunny island of Barbados for 10 nights in June.

Organized by Gullivers, the touring party will be staying on the south coast of the island and playing 5 fixtures against local opposition, as well as taking time to out to explore the island's beaches and nightlife! It promises to be exceptional!



A Final Word

At the time of writing, winter training is well under way and club coach Andy Stovold is working a record number of members hard to achieve the overall aim of 3 promotions this year, particularly for the 1st XI who came so close last year to reaching Premier A (the league in which the MCCUs play), being denied in a play-off game against Southampton Solent University.

We hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter and getting up to date with your former club! Look out for an email in the New Year about the annual dinner in March 2014!

UBCC Committee 2013/14

Next edition: February 2014

